

Interview Summary

Application No.

10/690,755

Applicant(s)

BENNETT, BARTON E.

Examiner

Hoa C. Nguyen

Art Unit

2841

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Mrs. Cuneo (SPE 2841).

(3) Mr. Bennett.

(2) Mr. Tychonevich.

(4) _____

Date of Interview: 17 January 2006.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____

Claim(s) discussed: 1-20.

Identification of prior art discussed: None.

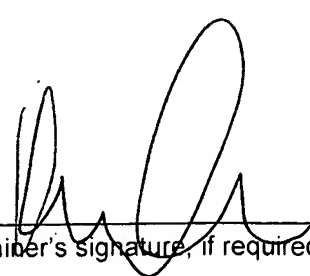
Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant and his representative called to inquire about the restriction. They asked about the "separate utility" requirement. Cuneo explained that separate utility in this context merely meant that the invention of group 2 can exist and be useful by itself, outside of the combination of group 1. Cuneo further explained that from the preamble of claims 1 and 15, it seems that the application is trying to capture the electronic assembly in claim 1 and merely the composite plastic portion in claim 15. Applicant and his representative then asked about amending the claims to clarify that claim 15 is also drawn to the sandwich structure with the electronics. Cuneo explained that a response to the requirement must include an election, but that if the claims were amended so that claims 1 and 15 were both drawn to the same subjectmatter, then a combination/subcombination restriction would no longer hold. She mentioned that in that case, a species requirement may or may not be valide (the specification would have to be consulted). Cuneo also mentioned that irrespective of the election, any nonelected claims including allowable subjectmatter can be rejoined. The applicant may file an amendment with the response to the restriction requirement.